Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 080787

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ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /026 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/INS:DKUX:JELEADER:MMK APPROVED BY NEA:ALATHERTON S/S:MR. ORTIZ

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R 092136Z APR 75 FM SECSTATE WASHDC TO AMEMBASSY COLOMBO

SECRETSTATE 080787

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-2

TAGS: PFOR, PINT, US, CE

SUBJECT: ALLEGATIONS RE CIA ACTIVITIES

REF: COLOMBO 938

FOR AMBASSADOR VAN HOLLEN FROM ASSISTANT SECRETARY ATHERTON

- 1. WE ARE DELIGHTED THAT TRADE MINISTER ILANGARATNE HAS APOLOGIZED FOR HIS IRRESPONSIBLE ALLEGATIONS REGARDING CIA ACTIVITIES (COLOMBO 1043), IT IS HEARTENING THAT OUR RELATIONS WITH SRI LANKA ARE SUCH THAT DESPITE THEIR COMPLEX INTERNAL POLITICAL SITUATION, A LEFTIST GSL MINISTER IS WILLING TO BACK DOWN.
- 2. WE COMMEND YOUR PROMPT REMEDIAL ACTION IN WRITING PRIME MINISTER AND ALSO THE LINE WHICH YOU TOOK IN YOUR MEETING WITH HER ON MARCH 28 (COLOMBO 983). YOU WERE RIGHT ON TARGET IN CATEGORICALLY DENYING THAT USG HAS ENGAGED OR IS ENGAGING EITHER DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY IN ANY ACTIVITIES CITED BY ILANGARATNE. WE REGRET THAT OUR REPLY TO COLOMBO 938 WAS NOT AVAILABLE IN TIME FOR SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 STATE 080787

MEETING; THE DELAY WAS NOT SUBSTANTIVE BUT RATHER DUE TO

INADVERTENT MIXUP IN HANDLING THE PROPOSED RESPONSE.

- 3. YOU SHOULD, OF COURSE, CONTINUE TO MAKE CATEGORICAL DENIAL OF THESE CHARGES SHOULD THE PROBLEM ARISE IN THE FUTURE, UNDERSCORING THAT UNFOUNDED CHARGES BY SENIOR GSL LEADERS COULD DAMAGE THE FRIENDLY RELATIONS WHICH HAVE EVOLVED BETWEEN THE U.S. AND SRI LANKA. WE VALUE THESE GOOD RELATIONS AND WILL DO EVERYTHING POSSIBLE TO MAINTAIN THEM. BUT AS IN THE PAST, THE CHOICE REMAINS ULTIMATELY WITH THE GSL.
- 4. AGAIN, OUR CONGRATULATIONS ON THE SKILLFUL WAY YOU HAVE MANAGED THIS DIFFICULT PROBLEM. KISSINGER

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

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Concepts: ASSASSINATION, INTERVENTION, ALLEGATIONS, POLITICAL LEADERS

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Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JÚL 2006

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To: COLOMBO

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